Introduction of Rail-Bus Service

*410. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have introduced Rail-Bus Service in some areas; and

(b) if so, the places, State-wise, where this Service has been introduced?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railways do not provide train services State-wise. However, so far Rail-Buses have been introduced on the following sectors:

1. Merta Road-Merta City
2. Bikaner-Kolayat
3. Mankapur-Katra
4. Bobilli-Salur
5. Indara-Dohrighat (MG)

Computerised Reservation facility in Gujarat

*411. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations in Gujarat particularly in Saurashtra Kutch region where the ticket reservation has been computerised during 1995-96;

(b) the details of additional stations in the State which were proposed to be provided with such facility during 1996-97; and

(c) the details of the programmes undertaken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Nil.

(b) and (c) Provision of computerised reservation facilities has been approved for Veraval, Bharuch, Valsad, Navsari and Nadiad Stations in the Annual Plan for 1996-97.

Redrafting of National Culture Policy

*412. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to redraft the National Culture Policy which was earlier prepared by the previous Government;

(b) if so, what are the main changes made in the new policy and to what extent it will be different from the earlier one; and

(c) what are the main features of the proposed draft policy and by when it is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) to (c) National Policy on Culture, as drafted, is under the consideration of the Government.

Provision of Passenger facilities in Express Trains

*413. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of facilities to the passengers being provided by the Railways in the Express trains;

(b) whether it is a fact that the facilities presently being provided in the trains are not up to the mark;

(c) if so, the reasons, thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Amenities/Facilities are provided as per the type and class of the coach and are as per the laid down schedule based on the recommendations of a Committee nominated for this purpose. Some of the

amenities/facilities provided in the coaches of express trains are:—

(i) Cushioned berths in Sleeper class coaches

(ii) Light fittings including fans

(iii) Luggage racks

(iv) Toilets with necessary fittings like mirrors, washbasins etc.

(v) Alarm Chain for safety

In addition, following facilities are also being provided:

(i) Bed rolls to all passengers of AC I & AC 2-tier coaches.

(ii) Travelling safaiwallas on nominated long distance express trains to clean the compartment and toilets during the journey.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Regulations Governing Computer Training Institutes

*414. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the hundreds of Computer Training Institutes being opened in various cities in our country;

(b) the details of the regulations which govern such Institutes;

(c) whether several such Institutes are advertising about their being affiliated to various foreign universities, if so, what is the position in this regard and what is Government's reaction to this; and

(d) what steps are being taken to encourage computer education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) to (d): Under the AICTE Act, 1987, AICTE accords approval to technical education institutions in the country to conduct various programmes at diploma, undergraduate and post-graduate levels including computer education. To encourage quality computer education in the non-formal sector, the Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Courses (DOEACC) gives accreditation to various institutions/organisations for running courses equivalent to certificate, diploma, degree and masters level subject to their meeting certain well defined norms and criteria. There are no regulations for the institutions run by the private institutions unless they are either accredited to DOEACC or are approved by the AICTE. No programme of any institution having affiliation with foreign universities has been approved by the AICTE.

[illegible] Performance at Atlanta Olympics

*415. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main reasons for the poor performance of India at the Atlanta Olympics;

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the standard of various games; and

(c) whether Government propose to review its sports policy for necessary improvement in sports activities; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) It is difficult to pinpoint any definite set of reasons for the poor performance of India at the Atlanta Olympics. Reasonably good performance was expected in Hockey, Shooting and Tennis. In Tennis Shri